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(b) Technical rules of evidence shall not apply to hearings conducted pursuant to this subpart 101-6.2, but rules or principles designed to assure production of the most credible evidence available and to subject testimony to test by cross-examination shall be applied where reasonably necessary by the officer conducting the hearing. The hearing officer may exclude irrelevant. immaterial, or unduly repetitious evidence. All documents and other evidence offered or taken for the record shall be open to examination by the parties and opportunity shall be given to refute facts and arguments advanced on either side of the issues. A transcript shall be made of the oral evidence except to the extent the substance thereof is stipulated for the record. All decisions shall be based upon the hearing record and written findings shall be made.

[29 FR 16287, Dec. 4, 1964, as amended at 38 FR 17974, July 5, 1973]

$\$\,101\text{--}6.212\text{--}5$ Consolidated or joint hearings.

In cases in which the same or related facts are asserted to constitute noncompliance with this subpart 101-6.2 with respect to two or more Federal statutes, authorities, or other means by which Federal financial assistance is extended and to which this subpart applies, or noncompliance with this subpart and the regulations of one or more other Federal departments or agencies issued under title VI of the Act, the Administrator may, by agreement with such other departments, or agencies, where applicable, provide for the conduct of consolidated or joint hearings, and for the application to such hearings of rules of procedure not inconsistent with this regulation. Final decisions in such cases, insofar as this subpart is concerned, shall be made in accordance with §101-6.213.

§ 101-6.213 Decisions and notices.

$\$\,101\text{--}6.213\text{--}1$ Decision by person other than the responsible GSA official.

If the hearing is held by a hearing examiner such hearing examiner shall either make an initial decision, if so authorized, or certify the entire record including his recommended findings

and proposed decision to the responsible GSA official for a final decision, and a copy of such initial decision or certification shall be mailed to the applicant or recipient. Where the initial decision is made by the hearing examiner the applicant or recipient may within 30 days of the mailing of such notice of initial decision file with the responsible GSA official his exceptions to the initial decision, with his reasons therefor. In the absence of exceptions, the responsible GSA official may on his own motion within 45 days after the initial decision serve on the applicant or recipient a notice that he will review the decision. Upon the filing of such exceptions or of such notice of review the responsible GSA official shall review the initial decision and issue his own decision thereon including the reasons therefor. In the absence of either exceptions or a notice of review the initial decision shall constitute the final decision of the responsible GSA official.

§ 101-6.213-2 Decisions on record or review by the responsible GSA official.

Whenever a record is certified to the responsible GSA official for decision or he reviews the decision of a hearing examiner pursuant to §101–6.213–1, or whenever the responsible GSA official conducts the hearing, the applicant or recipient shall be given reasonable opportunity to file with him briefs or other written statements of its contentions, and a copy of the final decision of the responsible GSA official shall be given in writing to the applicant or recipient, and to the complainant, if any.

§ 101-6.213-3 Decisions on record where a hearing is waived.

Whenever a hearing is waived pursuant to §101-6.212 a decision shall be made by the responsible GSA official on the record and a copy of such decision shall be given in writing to the applicant or recipient, and to the complainant, if any.

§ 101-6.213-4 Rulings required.

Each decision of a hearing officer or responsible GSA official shall set forth his ruling on each finding, conclusion,